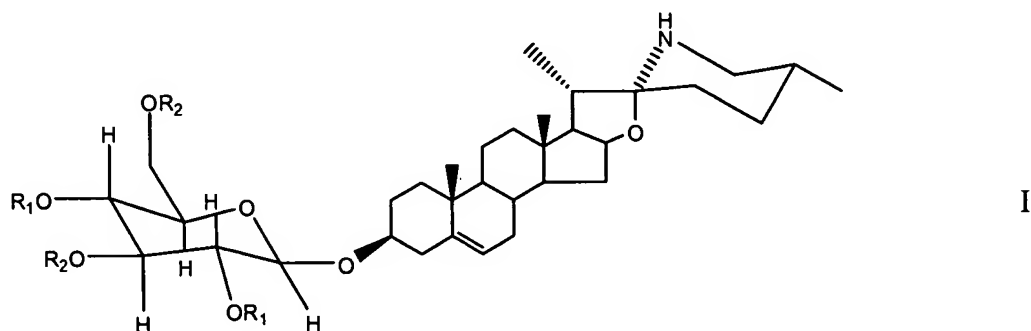


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace all prior versions and listings of claims (*i.e.*, the claims filed as of March 28, 2007) with the following Listing of Claims.

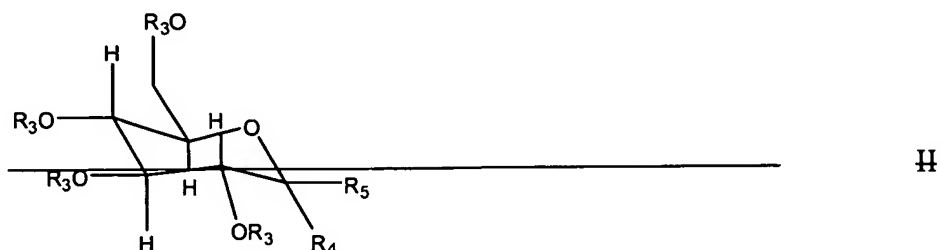
Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A glucose-solasodine conjugate of the general formula I ~~or a derivative thereof~~



wherein each of R_1 and R_2 are the same or different and represents a benzoyl or a pivaloyl group.

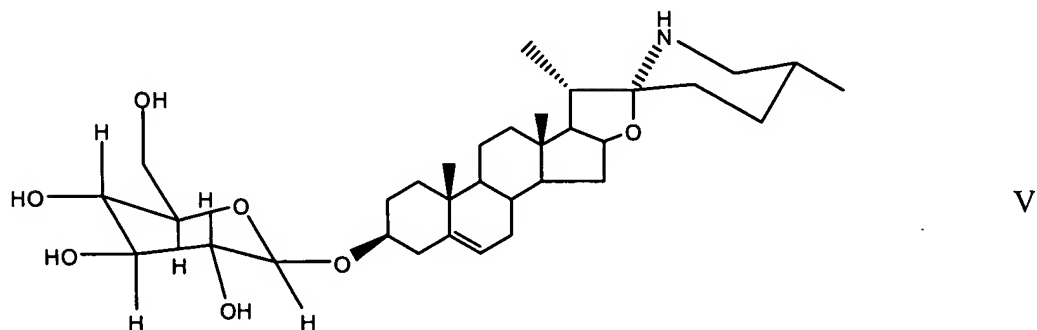
2. (Currently Amended) A method for the preparation of the glucose-solasodine conjugate ~~as defined in claim 1~~, comprising the reaction of solasodine with tetra-O-benzoyl- α -D-glucopyranosyl bromide, tetra-O-acetyl- α -D-glucopyranosyl bromide or tetra-O-pivaloyl- α -D-glucopyranosyl bromide; a glucopyranosyl donor of generic formula II



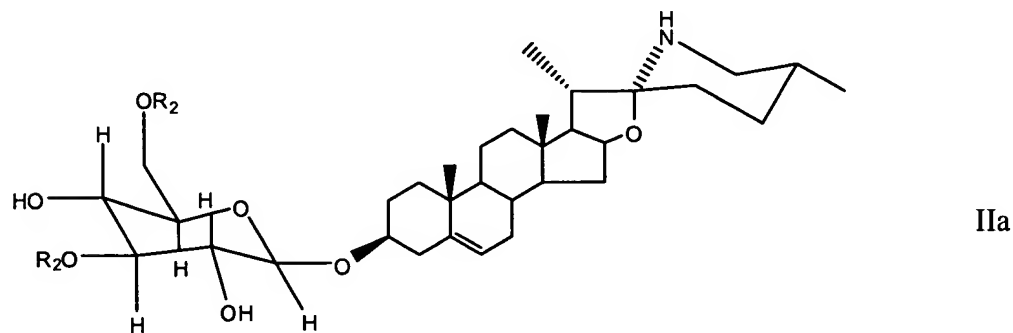
~~wherein each R₃ independently represents a benzoyl, acetyl or pivaloyl group,~~

~~wherein R₄ is halogen selected from Cl, Br or I and R₅ is hydrogen or R₄ is hydrogen and R₅ is SEt or SPh,~~

followed by optionally de-protecting the obtained glycoside to yield a compound of the formula V

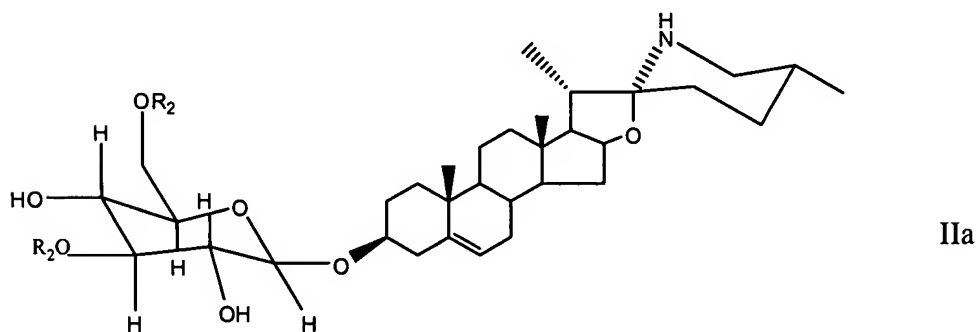
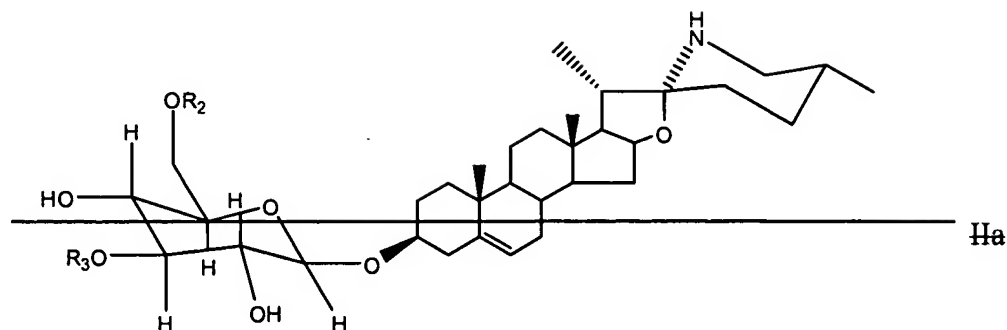


and reesterification of the most reactive hydroxyl groups (OH-3 and OH-6) to yield a compound of the formula IIa

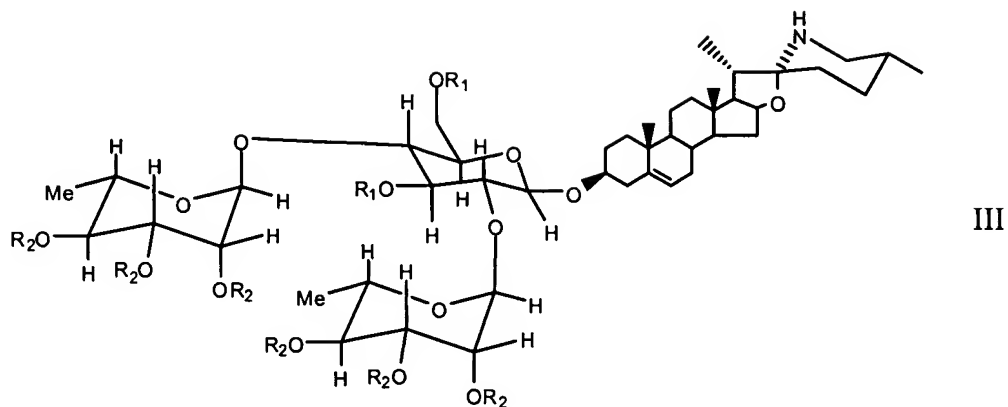


wherein R₂ is ~~a group~~ selected from pivaloyl or acetyl.

3. (Currently Amended) A method for the preparation of solamargine comprising the glycosylation of the diol of formula IIa₁



wherein R₂ is pivaloyl defined as in claim 1, with tri-O-benzoyl- α -L-rhamnopyranosyl bromide or tri-O-pivaloyl- α -L-rhamnopyranosyl trichloroacetimidate ~~an α -L-rhamnopyranosyl donor~~ to yield protected solamargine of formula III (1) which is de-esterified to yield solamargine of formula III (2)



(1) $R_1 = \text{Piv}$ and $R_2 = \text{Benzoyl}$ or Acetyl~~Pivaloyl~~

(2) $R_1 = R_2 = \text{H}$

4. (Canceled)

5. (Original) The method according to claim 2 or 4, wherein the glycosylation reaction is carried out in the presence of a promoter selected from silver trifluoromethane sulfonate (silver triflate), boron trifluoride diethyl etherate, trimethylsilyl triflate bromide, N-iodosuccinimide or dimethyl thiomethyl sulfonium triflate, silver trifluoromethyltriflate.

6. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the protected glycoside is deprotected in methanol-dichloromethane solution by treatment with sodium methoxide, followed by neutralization with solid CO_2 or mild acid ion-exchange resin.

7. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the most reactive hydroxyl groups (OH-3 and OH-6) are protected by reesterification with pivaloyl chloride in pyridine solution.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the protected solamargine is de-esterified by treatment with a base selected from sodium methoxide or sodium hydroxide in

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methanol-dichloromethane solution or a methanol-tetrahydrofuran-water mixture followed by neutralization with solid CO₂ or mild acid ion-exchange resin.